



CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION

TOM TORLAKSON

STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

August 27, 2012

Dear Accountability Coordinators:

The purpose of this letter is to notify you that the California Department of Education (CDE) is making data files available that indicate which students have been identified as continuously enrolled for accountability purposes based on California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS) enrollment and exit code data. These data were extracted on August 15, 2012.

The information in these data files are provided for two main purposes. First, they replace the continuous enrollment information historically provided through the student answer documents for accountability calculations. Second, these files will allow you to determine if you need to update enrollment and exit CALPADS data in the Operational Data Store (ODS).

In addition, these files should be used, in conjunction with the STAR Program and CAHSEE data files received from Education Testing Service (ETS), when estimating API scores via the API calculation spreadsheet. The API calculation spreadsheet can be downloaded in Microsoft Excel on the CDE API Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/ap/documents/calc11b12g.xls>.

In January 2012, the State Board of Education (SBE) adopted regulations that defined continuous enrollment. The *California Code of Regulations (CCR)*, Title 5, Section 1039.2, requires that a student be considered continuously enrolled if the student was enrolled in the same school or local educational agency (LEA) from Fall Census Day (first Wednesday in October) to the first day of testing, without a gap in enrollment of more than 30 consecutive calendar days. This definition was first applied with the 2011 Base Academic Performance Index (API) and will be applied to both the 2012 API and 2012 Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) determinations.

Because the CDE recognizes that many LEAs may not have resources to access the CALPADS data to make these determinations, student level data are available in two separate files, one for the Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) Program and one for the California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE). These files indicate if the student was considered continuously enrolled in the school and the district. In addition, for API determinations, the files indicate whether scores from an alternate education program (AEP) are being reassigned to a non-AEP school based on regulations outlined in CCR, Title 5, Section 1039.3 also adopted by the SBE in January 2012.

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For instructions on downloading these files, please see Attachment 1 for Window users and Attachment 2 for Mac users.

If you have any questions regarding these files, please contact Justin Lane, Associate Governmental Program Analyst, Academic Accountability Unit, by phone at 916-323-1341 or by e-mail at jlane@cde.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/

Rachel L. Perry, Director
Analysis, Measurement, and Accountability Reporting Division

RP:js
Attachments

cc: CALPADS Coordinators